

SENATOR LANDIS: We've now had the opening. There is no lights on, would you like to close, Senator Pirsch, on the adoption of the amendments?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Just urge that they adopt the amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. You've heard the opening and closing on the Pirsch amendments to LB 87. Those in favor vote aye, those opposed vote no. For those of you close to your desks, I hope that you will record your vote so we may proceed on this measure. The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Pirsch's amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: The amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk, our next order of business.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Pirsch would move to amend. Senator, I have AM1997 in front of me. (Amendment appears on pages 318-22 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Pirsch, you're recognized to open on your amendment. If the Chair could suggest, you might do a very brief overview of what is in the bill so that we will know what it is that we're amending. Ask you to do that just so we'll know what the amendments are relating to, if you would, please. Thank you.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Okay, right. LB 87 is a combination of redrafting of language to put it in the more comprehensive form and also to clarify some of the points of time and who is to do the notification. We also have added in the original bill, if the victim does want to be notified, that they must keep the county attorney informed of his or her current address and phone number, so it does put some responsibility on the victim if they do indeed want to be notified of those various stages of their case. As we laid over LB 87 because of the press of time from the last session, the federal government came forward with a list of requirements for their VOCA or the federal government for victims of crime, and so in my second amendment which is my last amendment, we have consolidated many of these provisions that would bring Nebraska into current compliance with the new VOCA eligibility conditions. And failure to comply with these new VOCA guidelines could lead to denial of federal funds which,